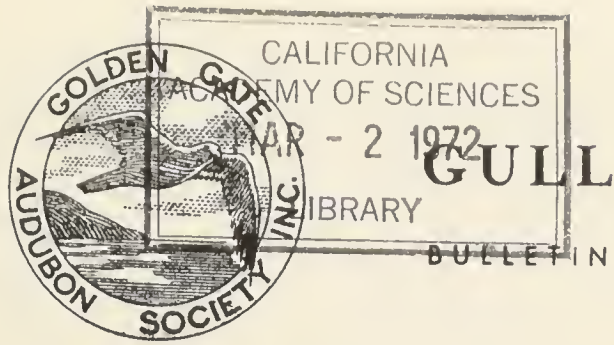


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COVEL'S CONSERVATION CORNER

Mounting demands to have the California Department of Fish and Game give more study and protection to non-game species of mammals, birds, fish, etc. were reflected in a bill introduced by Senator Randolph Collier in the last session of our Legislature. This bill would have appropriated monies from the general fund and requested the non-hunting public to contribute toward such services. At present virtually all of the \$22 - 23 million annual budget of the department is obtained from licenses, fines and taxes on ammunition and equipment. State Senators Collier, Nejedly, Holmdahl, Teale and Beilenson and Assemblymen Brown, Dunlap, Burton, Crown (among others) will be concerned with similar bills in the present session—if you wish to give them your views.

Meanwhile, the Department of Fish and Game has just published (Jan. 1972) a comprehensive report on the rare and endangered wildlife of California entitled: "At The Crossroads." This 99-page brochure describes 19 endangered species and 24 rare species, with black and white photographs and distributional map sketches for most of them. Director Ray Arnett makes a plea for public funds to protect the habitats of these animals in his letter transmitting this report to the governor. In the foreword appear the names of Howard R. Leach, our loyal Audubon friend in the Wildlife Management Branch, and Leonard O. Fisk of Inland Fisheries. We congratulate Howard and associates on this fine brochure, which we understand is obtainable for one dollar from the Department of Fish and Game, 1416 Ninth St., Sacramento 95814.

Speaking of endangered species, could you help to find a home for some wolves? A few acres of land somewhere in northern California would be ideal. If you have or know of such a site, phone Dave Gumpert, of the North American Association for the Preservation of Predatory Animals (841-8878). Or write the association care of the San Francisco Ecology Center, 13 Columbus Ave., San Francisco 94111. Judging from the response to our "wolf affair" of Thursday, January 13, wolves do have many friends! Watch for an announcement of a Sunday afternoon wolf program at the Center.

Opposition is growing to a six-lane "freeway" proposed by the State Division of Highways for the San Mateo coast. A Sierra Club group would prefer to see two lanes with a bicycle path. I suspect many coastal dwellers and a lot of us coast visitors would settle for four lanes, with

cuts and fills held to a minimum, and riding and cycling paths. A beautiful "slick" brochure with graphic black-and-white pictures entitled, "Coast-side San Mateo County, California" has been published by the San Mateo Group of the Sierra Club. It indicts local government for failing to preserve this lovely coastline and challenges elected officials—and all of us—to reverse these past business-first policies and to plan for orderly growth. (Of course, it's not just San Mateo County—much of our vanishing open space along the California coast needs rigid zoning and control, and this may well be the year people get it or lose it forever.)

State Senator Peter Behr will introduce a new bill to protect the wild rivers of northern California—the legislation defeated last year by the State Administration and the "water-users lobby." The Sierra Club would like to see some Sierran rivers also included. It's rumored Senator Behr would like to propose a ban on animal poisoning, also, if he can arouse enough support among colleagues.

EAST AFRICAN BIRDS AND BEASTS

Mrs. Grace Miller of the Marin Audubon Society will present a talk and slides on the birds and animals of East Africa at the March General Meeting of the Golden Gate Audubon Society. This program will provide a welcome supplement to Bower E. Rudrud's "Treasure of East Africa," which was shown recently in Oakland.

This meeting will be held Thursday, **March 9 at 7:30 P.M.** at the Rotary Natural Science Center in Lakeside Park, Oakland. Visitors and guests are welcome.

FILM TOUR OF THE GRAND CANYON

The final film in this year's Audubon Wildlife Film series will be *Journey in Time: Reflections on the Grand Canyon* by Robert W. Davison. It will be shown in the Oakland Auditorium Theater on Monday, **March 27, at 8 P.M.** Admission is \$1.50 for adults and 75¢ for students under 18. Children are admitted free.

Journey in Time was made to commemorate the centennial of John Wesley Powell's journey into the Grand Canyon. The film includes a river boat trip from Lee's Ferry to Lake Mead and explores the canyon's plant and animal life and its geology.

Robert Davison was born in eastern Colorado in the foothills of the Rockies. He has made more than 100 films, many of which have appeared on such well-known television programs as "Wild Kingdom" and "Animal World."

You may join Mr. Davison at a no-host dinner at Lovely's Buffet, 336 Grand Ave., Oakland, at 6 P.M. on the night of the film.

AUDUBON NATURE TRAINING CLASSES

"Audubon Nature Training offers a uniquely practical approach to urban ecology. Although originally designed for adults who work with children, it has become increasingly popular as a fresh approach for ALL adults who are interested in observing, enjoying, and interpreting the natural processes of living things.

"We explore a schoolyard, backyard, city park or vacant lot to find out how nature works. Our teaching approach aims at stimulating awareness, inquiry, and the urge to put two and two together—thinking ecologically."

Audubon Nature Training courses for spring 1972 soon will begin. If you are interested in participating, you may obtain a complete list of courses from: Audubon Nature Training, 1749 Grove Street, Berkeley, California 94704.

AUDUBON OLIO

Bayfill Prohibited.—The Army Corps of Engineers on January 19 prohibited further fill of waters behind dikes on San Francisco Bay, unless such fill is approved by the Corps. This order also applies to the coastline extending from Morro Bay to the Oregon border, but excludes Suisun Bay and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. All future landfill proposals in the above region will require Army approval, only after public hearings and the preparation of an environmental impact study of the suggested fill area. This is good news indeed.

Condors.—The 1971 Condor Survey found only 34 birds, but the total population is still estimated at 60. Only four immature Condors were counted, however, which suggests a low rate of nesting success. One factor in this nesting problem may be a reduction in the Condor's food supply because of land use changes. While the existing Condors are not starving, their limited food supply may be inhibiting their reproduction. The National Audubon Society, University of California, Fish and Wildlife Service, and California Department of Fish and Game are cooperating in a study to determine whether this is so and what remedial actions may be taken.

BIRDING CALENDAR

March is a mixed month with respect to birdlife in the Bay Area. Species characteristic of winter slowly begin to leave for their breeding grounds, while those which have been absent since last fall begin to return. Other species, which have been scarce during winter, begin to appear in greater numbers.

A pond that one day hosted large numbers of ducks may the next be suddenly empty. A woodland given over to sparrows and woodpeckers may one morning be filled with the songs of newcomers.

Yet March is mostly winter. Most of the ducks will stay for another month or so. Most of the spring migrants will not show up until the middle of April. One of the month's best birding activities, however, is scouting about the woodlands for early arrivals from the south.

A few individuals of the following species will begin to trickle into the area this month, especially during the last week or two. Some species, such as the swallows, will be represented in greater numbers and may be suddenly conspicuous where once they were absent. You will note that most of the following species are passerines.

Green Heron, Northern Phalarope, Rufous Hummingbird, Allen's Hummingbird, Western Kingbird (end of month in small numbers), West-

ern Flycatcher, Violet-green Swallow, Tree Swallow, Bank Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Purple Martin, Solitary Vireo (rare migrant, end of month), Warbling Vireo. MacGillivray's Warbler, Wilson's Warbler, Bullock's Oriole (uncommon until mid-April), Black-headed Grosbeak (end of month), and Chipping Sparrow (uncommon until April). (NOTE: this information is drawn from McCaskie & DeBenedictis, *Birds of Northern California, Berkeley, 1966*.)

Among the places to go this month to look for new arrivals are Briones Regional Park, Tilden Park, Sonoma Regional Park, Coyote Hills Regional Park, Del Valle Regional Park, Mt. Tamalpais, and Pt. Reyes National Seashore. Most of the locations listed in earlier Birding Calendars will still be good for wintering species.—STEVE WHITNEY, *editor*.

FIELD OBSERVATIONS

Blue Goose with Snow Geese, Jan. 22, Los Banos Refuge—SJ, VR *et al.*

European Widgeon drake, Jan. 22, Pope Valley—BPa.

Tufted Duck listed in Christmas Count period for Western Sonoma Co.—Madrone Audubon bulletin.

Barrow's Goldeneye, Dec. 30, Bolinas Lagoon—BMc, WP.

Oldsquaw female, Jan. 30, Keller's Beach, Richmond—SJ, GZ, DB.

Albino Red-tailed Hawk, Jan. 26, on high voltage pole, Rodeo Lagoon, for third winter.

Rough-legged Hawk, light phase, Dec. 30, Jan. 1, Pt. Reyes area—BMc, WP, JH.

Four *Ferruginous Hawks*, Jan. 22, Merced Refuge—SJ, VR.

Four *Bald Eagles* (2 adults, 2 immatures) Jan. 7, Calaveras Reservoir, close views with scope—AP, DP.

Pigeon Hawk female, Dec. 3-29, thirty feet from house in Walnut Creek—DN; male Dec. 27, 28 near Jewel Lake, Tilden Park—JH; male Jan. 24, Geyserville, Jan. 30, Abbot's Lagoon—DW, SW.

Piping Plover listed on Santa Barbara Christmas Count Dec. 19 as first California record—Santa Barbara Audubon bulletin *El Tecolote*.

Two *Rock Sandpipers*, Dec. 18, on Western Sonoma County Christmas Count—Madrone Audubon bulletin.

Long-eared Owl, Jan. 10, perched for ½ hour near top of peach tree in Alamo backyard, clearly visible from 60 ft. with scope—JR.

Immature *Yellow-shafted Flicker*, Jan. 11, Abbott's Lagoon, Pt. Reyes—BF *et al.*; female in Oakland hills, Jan. 8—VH.

Tropical Kingbird, Jan. 1, Coyote Hills Reg. Park—PWh.

Dipper, Jan. 29, Alum Rock Park, San Jose—FR.

Rock Wren, Jan. 9, 17, Big Springs Trail, Tilden Park—GA, PW, JM.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher still at Notre Dame College, Belmont, Jan. 31—FR.

A winter *Phainopepla*, Jan. 30, chasing bluebirds from his territory above Livermore on upper Mines Rd., mile 18.35—a territory to check again in spring—VH.

Immature *Harris' Sparrow*, Jan. 20, 27, Sunol Valley Reg. Park—BP *et al*; the other one still in Pt. Reyes area Jan. 24.

White-throated Sparrow, early Dec.—Jan. 31, Alamo garden—JR; another during same period in Oakland hills—VH; another Oct. 26—Jan. 22, in San Leandro garden—RH, MH; one in Coyote Hills Reg. Park, Jan. 18—FN, FR; one still in San Francisco garden, Jan. 19—AF; one in Kensington garden, Jan. 15.—WL.

Lincoln's Sparrow, Jan. 24, Lafayette Reservoir—JR.

Swamp Sparrow, early January, at Jerry Brady's Inverness Motel—BP. Western Sonoma County Christmas Count, Dec. 18, had a Swamp Sparrow.

Behavior Observations—A Clapper Rail stalked, caught and swallowed a field mouse on Alameda's South shore Jan. 16—ER. During the Dec. 4 high tide at South shore a swimming Clapper Rail "momentarily bobbed below the surface when it was buzzed by a gull"—JMc, BMc.

Observers: Garth Alton, Danny Boelter, Ann Follis, Bud Fry, Margaret Hilton, Ralph Hilton, John Hollis, Stuart Johnston, Warren Larson, Brian McCaffery, Joe McCaffery, Joe Morlan, Dolores Nelson, Fran Nelson, Wayne Palsson, Benjamin Parmeter, Alan Pistorius, Dottie Pistorius, Bill Pursell, Van Remsen, Florene Riehardson, Jean Richmond, Elsie Roemer, Peter Ward, Peter White, Donna Whitney, Steve Whitney, Gary Zamzow.—VI HOMEM, *Observations Chairman*, 339-1886.

FIELD TRIPS FOR MARCH

Sunday, March 5—DRAKE'S ESTERO TRAIL. Meet at 9 A.M. at the Inverness Store, Inverness, California. (Details in February *Gull*)

Sunday, March 12—TUBBS ISLAND. Take Highway 101 north from San Francisco. Turn east on Highway 37 (Black Point Cutoff). Cross Petaluma bridge, and 4 miles farther, cross Tolay Creek Bridge. Park immediately on the other side of the bridge near a locked gate. The caravan will go through the gate at 9 A.M. It will be locked behind us. Bring lunch. Leader: S.S. Whitehead (933-3390)

Thursday, March 16—GOLDEN GATE PARK. Stow Lake and Strawberry Hill. Meet at the boathouse at 9 A.M. Lunch optional. Leader: Marian LaFazio (771-0175)

Saturday, March 18—BODEGA BAY. Meet at 8:45 A.M. at the first parking lot inside the entrance to Doran Beach Park, about one mile south of the town of Bodega Bay. Be prepared with two quarters to get through the gate. Everybody is welcome, but this trip is designed for beginners. Bring lunch and scopes. Leader: Jim Clayton (524-2917)

Saturday, March 25—KIRBY COVE. A trip for birders unable to attend the Asilomar Conference. Cross Golden Gate Bridge, take the Sausalito exit, and in 1/8 mile turn left and wait at the east end of the tunnel (do not go through tunnel). The caravan will leave at 9 A.M. Be prepared to walk a mile or more. Lunch optional. Leader: Pat Triggs (364-8502)

Saturday, April 1—a wild flower trip to TILDEN PARK. Meet at the Little Farm at 9 A.M. Approach via Spruce St. and Grizzly Peak Blvd. Enter on Canyon Drive. Bring lunch. Leader: Dick Leinbaeh (526-7649)

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Berkeley Aquatic Park and Marina—January 12. Despite fog and cold, thirty birders saw a total of 34 species. At Aquatic Park, they identified ten species of ducks, including Redheads and Red-breasted Mergansers. They also saw both species of egret and Black-crowned Night Herons. At the marina, they saw a total of 12 species, including Common Loon, Surf Scoter, Short-eared Owl, and Burrowing Owl.

We were especially pleased that, in addition to the faithful regulars, many new participants joined this trip, including former birders who are returning to this hobby and several keenly interested young people. We appreciate the help some of our experts gave to these newer birders. Bertha Underhill, Leader.

Approximately 45 people enjoyed a fine day of birding at Dillon Beach and Tomales Bay on January 15. They tallied some 75 species. Shorebirds, loons, grebes, and bay ducks headed the list, with several Common Scoters, both male and female, of special interest. A large flock of about 150 White Pelicans was resting on the beach in the morning. Hundreds of Arctic Loons were seen in flight and on the water at the mouth of Tomales Bay. They also saw several Red-necked Grebes. Upon leaving the beach, several birders were fortunate to see an immature Ferruginous Hawk, spotted by Val and Bob DaCosta. Mary Louise Rosegay, leader.

AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

Audubon Canyon Ranch will be open to the public without charge on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays **from 10 to 4** beginning **Saturday, March 4**. Appointments for visits by groups may be made for Tuesdays through Fridays by calling 383-1644 or by writing to Audubon Canyon Ranch, Shoreline Highway, Stinson Beach 94970 (the ranch is closed on Mondays). The most rewarding time to visit the ranch and view the nesting herons and egrets from the overlook is between mid-April and mid-June.

Golden Gate Hosting. Our chapter is responsible for hosting at Canyon Ranch for all weekends in March, for Easter Week (Mar. 27-Mar. 31), and for July 1-July 4, when the ranch closes to the public. To volunteer for this duty, please phone Mrs. Harold Rosegay in San Francisco (561-2889) or write to her at 540-A Presidio Blvd., Presidio of San Francisco, S.F., CA 94129.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Golden Gate Audubon Society needs volunteers to work part-time in the chapter office at 1749 Grove St., Berkeley, California. If you have the time and desire, write the office or contact Claire Johnson, President of GGAS, 1127 El Centro Ave., Oakland, California 94602 (phone 533-7118).

The GGAS Board of Directors has decided to appoint a Publicity Committee for the chapter. If you would like to chair such a committee, please contact President Claire Johnson at the above address.

POINT REYES CHRISTMAS COUNT

The Point Reyes Count day, December 19, 1971, was clear; temp. 25° before daylight to a high of 52°; winds northerly, 0 to 15 mph. *Compiler:* Jack Guggolz.

Totals: 200 species, 124,006 individuals, 193 observers.

Common Loon	210	Golden Eagle	10
Arctic Loon	112	Bald Eagle	4
Red-throated Loon	432	Marsh Hawk	77
Red-necked Grebe	20	Osprey	3
Horned Grebe	426	<i>Prairie Falcon</i>	1
Eared Grebe	366	Peregrine Falcon	6
Western Grebe	462	Sparrow Hawk	223
Pied-billed Grebe	150	California Quail	2,209
<i>Fulmar</i>	14	Ring-necked Pheasant	1
White Pelican	827	Virginia Rail	17
Brown Pelican	31	Sora	2
Double-crested Cormorant	1,295	Common Gallinule	2
Brandt's Cormorant	2,076	American Coot	1,272
Pelagic Cormorant	1,207	Black Oystercatcher	10
Great Blue Heron	167	Semipalmated Plover	32
Green Heron	3	Snowy Plover	125
Common Egret	48	Killdeer	1,010
Snowy Egret	41	Black-bellied Plover	461
Black-crowned Night Heron	31	Surfbird	4
American Bittern	8	Ruddy Turnstone	1
<i>Cattle Egret</i>	2	Black Turnstone	111
Whistling Swan	6	Common Snipe	281
Canada Goose	55	Whimbrel	1
Black Brant	41	Spotted Sandpiper	11
Snow Goose	32	Wandering Tattler	1
Mallard	477	Willet	1,532
Gadwall	21	Greater Yellowlegs	41
Pintail	13,226	Knot	11
Green-winged Teal	260	Least Sandpiper	3,140
Cinnamon Teal	16	Dunlin	11,060
American Widgeon	3,250	Short-billed Dowitcher	15
Shoveler	135	Long-billed Dowitcher	50
Redhead	502	Western Sandpiper	4,611
Ring-necked Duck	5	Marbled Godwit	304
Canvasback	356	Sanderling	696
Greater Scaup	614	American Avocet	20
Lesser Scaup	450	<i>Pomarine Jaeger</i>	2
Common Goldeneye	632	Glaucous-winged Gull	731
Barrow's Goldeneye	1	Western Gull	727
Bufflehead	7,403	Herring Gull	198
Oldsquaw	1	California Gull	291
Harlequin Duck	1	Ring-billed Gull	762
White-winged Scoter	1,180	Mew Gull	302
Surf Scoter	7,387	Bonaparte's Gull	22
Common Scoter	60	Black-legged Kittiwake	1
Ruddy Duck	4,720	Common Murre	1,639
Hooded Merganser	8	Pigeon Guillemot	1
Common Merganser	2	Marbled Murrelet	10
Red-breasted Merganser	164	Ancient Murrelet	28
Turkey Vulture	797	Rhinoceros Auklet	3
White-tailed Kite	8	Band-tailed Pigeon	68
Sharp-shinned Hawk	33	Mourning Dove	105
Cooper's Hawk	29	Barn Owl	2
Red-tailed Hawk	340	Screech Owl	6
Red-shouldered Hawk	12	Great Horned Owl	52
Rough-legged Hawk	3	Pygmy Owl	2
Ferruginous Hawk	8	Burrowing Owl	2

Spotted Owl	2	Golden-crowned Kinglet	191
Long-eared Owl	1	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1,296
Short-eared Owl	1	Water Pipit	701
Saw-whet Owl	1	Cedar Waxwing	74
White-throated Swift	1	Loggerhead Shrike	21
Anna's Hummingbird	23	Starling	3,610
Belted Kingfisher	81	Hutton's Vireo	49
Yellow-shafted Flicker	7	<i>Black-and-White Warbler</i>	1
Red-shafted Flicker	676	Orange-crowned Warbler	4
Pileated Woodpecker	1	<i>Yellow Warbler</i>	1
Acorn Woodpecker	67	Myrtle Warbler	337
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	13	Audubon's Warbler	3,011
Hairy Woodpecker	61	<i>Black-throated Gray Warbler</i>	1
Downy Woodpecker	51	Townsend's Warbler	74
Nuttall's Woodpecker	9	Hermit Warbler	3
Black Phoebe	324	Yellowthroat	36
Say's Phoebe	63	House Sparrow	329
Horned Lark	216	Western Meadowlark	2,285
Violet-green Swallow	28	Red-winged Blackbird	1,488
Tree Swallow	8	Tricolored Blackbird	120
Steller's Jay	232	Brewer's Blackbird	2,425
Scrub Jay	649	Brown-headed Cowbird	12
Common Raven	336	<i>Evening Grosbeak</i>	1
Common Crow	749	Purple Finch	302
Chestnut-backed Chickadee	696	House Finch	518
Plain Titmouse	58	Pine Siskin	291
Common Bushtit	1,256	American Goldfinch	57
White-breasted Nuthatch	5	Lesser Goldfinch	7
Red-breasted Nuthatch	6	Rufous-sided Towhee	225
Pygmy Nuthatch	206	Brown Towhee	368
Brown Creeper	31	Savannah Sparrow	292
Wrentit	1,074	Lark Sparrow	5
House Wren	1	Rufous-crowned Sparrow	4
Winter Wren	108	Slate-colored Junco	1
Bewick's Wren	281	Oregon Junco	1,397
Long-billed Marsh Wren	232	<i>Harris' Sparrow</i>	1
Rock Wren	3	White-crowned Sparrow	6,204
Mockingbird	2	Golden-crowned Sparrow	2,310
California Thrasher	1	White-throated Sparrow	9
Robin	1,925	Fox Sparrow	762
Varied Thrush	696	Lincoln's Sparrow	19
Hermit Thrush	356	Swamp Sparrow	8
Western Bluebird	654	Song Sparrow	1,494

There were no species seen during the count period that were not seen on the Point Reyes Count day.

The use of *italics* means either that the species is unusual or that the number of a particular species is unusually high. The same device is used for both counts presented herein.

OAKLAND CHRISTMAS COUNT

The Oakland Count day, January 2, 1972, was clear and cool; temp. 28° to 57°; wind northwesterly, 5 to 25 mph. *Compiler*: J. Garth Alton. *Totals*: 162 species, 77,738 individuals, 73 observers.

Common Loon	27	Eared Grebe	128
Arctic Loon	3	Western Grebe	311
Red-throated Loon	3	Pied-billed Grebe	89
Horned Grebe	120	Brown Pelican	87

Double-crested Cormorant	265	Greater Yellowlegs	5
Brandt's Cormorant	2	Lesser Yellowlegs.....	1
Pelagic Cormorant	3	Knot	14
Great Blue Heron	29	Rock Sandpiper	1
Common Egret	18	Least Sandpiper	429
Snowy Egret	62	Dunlin	5,610
Black-crowned Night Heron	91	Short-billed Dowitcher	152
American Bittern	2	Long-billed Dowitcher	264
Canada Goose	1,249	Western Sandpiper	6,655
White-fronted Goose	189	(Sandpiper sp.	2,950)
Snow Goose	2	Marbled Godwit	703
Mallard	1,149	Sanderling	545
Gadwall	2	American Avocet	1,412
Pintail	2,467	Glaucous-winged Gull	2,165
Green-winged Teal	124	Western Gull	872
Cinnamon Teal	5	Herring Gull	19
American Widgeon	603	California Cull	750
Shoveler	193	Ring-billed Gull	1,769
Wood Duck	4	Mew Cull	971
Redhead	12	Bonaparte's Gull	284
Ring-necked Duck	160	Heerman's Gull	13
Canvasback	2,211	(Cull sp.	1,497)
Greater Scaup	861	Forster's Tern	132
Lesser Scaup	514	Common Tern	2
(Scaup sp.	517)	Band-tailed Pigeon	334
Common Goldeneye	283	Mourning Dove	283
Barrow's Goldeneye	7	Great Horned Owl	7
Bufflehead	265	Burrowing Owl	12
White-winged Scoter	158	Short-eared Owl	6
Surf Scoter	8,398	Saw-whet Owl	2
Common Scoter	11	White-throated Swift	3
Ruddy Duck	2,860	Anna's Hummingbird	85
Hooded Merganser	4	Belted Kingfisher	2
Common Merganser	40	Red-shafted Flicker	66
Red-breasted Merganser	31	Acorn Woodpecker	7
Turkey Vulture	65	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	9
White-tailed Kite	1	Hairy Woodpecker	1
Sharp-shinned Hawk	6	Downy Woodpecker	7
Cooper's Hawk	3	Nuttall's Woodpecker	8
Red-tailed Hawk	39	Black Phoebe	19
Marsh Hawk	6	Say's Phoebe	4
Pigeon Hawk	1	Western Flycatcher	1
Sparrow Hawk	37	Horned Lark	66
California Quail	87	Steller's Jay	153
Ring-necked Pheasant	18	Scrub Jay	245
Clapper Rail	22	Common Crow	15
Virginia Rail	1	Chestnut-backed Chickadee	255
Sora	2	Plain Titmouse	103
American Coot	2,692	Common Bushtit	265
Semipalmated Plover	145	White-breasted Nuthatch	4
Snowy Plover	41	Red-breasted Nuthatch	48
Killdeer	245	Brown Creeper	7
Black-bellied Plover	948	Wrentit	116
Ruddy Turnstone	9	Winter Wren	7
Black Turnstone	35	Bewick's Wren	38
Common Snipe	13	Long-billed Marsh Wren	1
Long-billed Curlew	60	Rock Wren	3
Whimbrel	8	Mockingbird	20
Spotted Sandpiper	14	California Thrasher	21
Willet	1,091	Robin	749
		Varied Thrush	163

Hermit Thrush	42	Brown-headed Cowbird	9
Western Bluebird	9	Purple Finch	32
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	3	House Finch	653
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	67	Pine Siskin	127
Water Pipit	119	American Goldfinch	130
Cedar Waxwing	496	Lesser Goldfinch	66
Loggerhead Shrike	15	Rufous-sided Towhee	80
Starling	11,927	Brown Towhee	213
Hutton's Vireo	3	Savannah Sparrow	88
Myrtle Warbler	26	Rufous-crowned Sparrow	4
Audubon's Warbler	99	Slate-colored Junco	1
Townsend's Warbler	7	Oregon Junco	462
Yellowthroat	2	White-crowned Sparrow	749
House Sparrow	244	Golden-crowned Sparrow	220
Western Meadowlark	308	White-throated Sparrow	2
Red-winged Blackbird	924	Fox Sparrow	51
Brewer's Blackbird	911	Lincoln's Sparrow	6
		Song Sparrow	143

The following species were observed in the count area during the count period but not on count day: **Red-necked Grebe**, White Pelican, Green Heron, **Oldsquaw**, and Golden-crowned Kinglet.

Participants in the Oakland Count may wonder why the Spotted Owl, which had been included in our count, does not appear here. Examination of photographs of this bird (see description in the May 1971 issue of *The Gull*, p. 40) suggest that it is probably an escaped Brown Wood Owl (*Strix leptogrammica*), native of India, Ceylon, Southeast Asia, Sumatra, Borneo, and Java. The deletion of this bird from our count is the result of post-count consultation with professional ornithologists, who have resolved doubts held by many as to the identity of this bird, which has been observed by many careful, but puzzled Golden Gate birders. That this stranger to the North American Continent has survived here for about a year should not go unremarked.

HOUSE PASSES REFUGE BILL

Those of you who have written letters in support of the effort to establish a wildlife refuge in the South Bay should feel a sense of pride and accomplishment. Although the refuge is not yet established, H.R. 1214 (same as 1971 H.R. 111) recently passed the House of Representatives by a nearly unanimous vote. *Local support* did not go unnoticed in the Department of Interior or in the committees of Congress.

H.R. 12143 had the backing of twenty-five Congressmen, among which were Representative Garmatz, Chairman of the House Committee on Merchant Marine Fisheries, and Representative Dingell, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Wildlife and Fisheries. A Senate bill is also in the works, but rumor has it that the House version will also be passed in the Senate.

Other House members sponsoring H.R. 12143 were Messrs. Edwards, Burton, Dellums, Gubser, Leggett, McCloskey, Moss, Waldie, Pelly, Clark, Maillard, Mosher, Lennon, Keith, Downing, Bray, Biaggi, Steele, Anderson (all of California), Forsythe, Kyros, DuPont and Tiernan.

Those of you who have written letters of support in the past are urged to do so again. If you support the bill, but have not written, we

hope you will do so soon. At present, the most useful additional thing we can do is to encourage out-of-state friends to enlist the support of their Senators. Get the word passed along.

Undersecretary of the Interior Nathaniel Reed stated recently that his department is already budgeting funds and making preliminary plans for land acquisition. We hope this news may encourage those of you who have yet to write.

Refuge pins, which for the past year have been sold at membership meetings and wildlife film presentations, are still available. The money collected from the sales of these pins helped to finance trips to Washington, D.C. for witnesses to represent our interests at the Congressional hearings.

ECO-NOTES AND POSTERS ON SALE

The Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society has recently published four attractive note cards, each bearing a photograph of one of four species of birds indigenous to South San Francisco Bay. Photographed by skilled nature photographer Kenneth W. Gardner, the four species are the Black-crowned Night Heron, American Avocet, Willet and Black-necked Stilt. These cards are available in pre-packaged sets of 10 for \$2.00.

Two 17 X 22-inch black and white posters are also available from the Santa Clara Audubon Society. One poster features a photograph of two White-tailed Kites in flight. The other features a large, close-up of a Black-bellied Plover in winter plumage. Both are very beautiful studies of the birds. They cost \$1.00 each. The price has been kept as low as possible so that kids can afford them.

You may purchase both the note-cards and the posters through the Golden Gate Audubon Society, 1749 Grove St., Berkeley, California 94709. Samples are available for your inspection at the above address. We hope you will make the purchase of these items an occasion to visit our chapter office in Berkeley. Other environmental items and information are also available.

OBITUARY

Myra Jones Browne, GGAS President in 1956, passed away Thursday, February 3, 1972. She was 74 years of age. Mrs. Browne was a dedicated worker for many years in GGAS activities. Her successful fund-raising efforts on behalf of Audubon Canyon Ranch were instrumental in its success. A tribute will appear in the April Gull.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Gifts of remembrance were made to Audubon Canyon Ranch:

<i>In Memory of:</i>		<i>Gift of:</i>
Mr. Albert Arntsen	Frances Capelle	
Mr. Robert Perona	Gloria Martin and Eastmont friends	
Mr. Elmer R. Schaefer	Mildred Winslow	
<i>In Honor of:</i>		<i>Gift of:</i>
Myra Browne	Lolita Peterson	
Mr. S.S. Whitehead	Skyline Garden Club	

DR. ALBERT BOLES, *Sanctuary and Memorial Fund Chairman*,
854 Longridge Road, Oakland, California 94610 (415-6267).



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1972

THE GULL

March

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

Established January 25, 1917 A Branch of the National Audubon Society since 1948

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Send address changes to Membership Secretary promptly; Post Office does not forward *THE GULL*.
Monthly meetings second Thursday 7:30 p.m. Joint membership,—Local & National \$12 per year,
(individual); \$15 (family); includes *AUDUBON MAGAZINE* and *THE GULL*. Subscriptions to
THE GULL separately \$2 per year.

High school & college student membership \$6 per year.

The *Gull* deadline is the first of the month for the following month.